

AMENDMENT  
U.S. Appln. No. 09/392,585

first establishing a link with a management server through the public communications network, via at least one supervision terminal that is independent of the isolated franking machine, in accordance with a protocol of communication; and

subsequently proceeding with an exchange of data between the supervision terminal and the management server during which a user (1) acquires at the supervision terminal a current invoicing index indicative of the isolated franking machine and (2) receives a code of authorization to frank in order to validate the subsequent frankings of the isolated franking machine.

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